

Abstract

A system for selectively delivering drugs to target tissues is provided. The system includes a polymer-linker-drug conjugate. The linker includes a segment that is recognized and cleaved by a digestive enzyme that is overexpressed in the extracellular space of the target tissue.

- 5 The recognition segment is preferably an oligopeptide or oligosaccharide segment. The polymeric carrier is preferably hydrophilic, biodegradable and biocompatible particle. Any drug may be delivered using a conjugate prepared according to the invention. Methods of preparing the conjugates and administering the conjugates for targeted drug delivery are also provided.